



Vienna, 1848: The Liberal Revolution

- G The "February Revolution" in France triggered a rebellion for liberal reforms.
- G March 13 → rioting broke out in Vienna.
 - The Austrian Empire collapsed.
 - Metternich fled.
 - Constituent Assembly met.
 - Serfdom [robot] abolished.
- The revolution began to wane.
- The revolutionary government failed to govern effectively.



The New Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph I [r. 1848-1916]



The Hungarian Revolution



Lajos Kossuth (1802-1894)

- G Hungarian revolutionary leader.
- G March laws provided for Hungarian independence.
- G Austrians invade.
 - Hungarian armies drove within sight of Vienna.
- G Slavic minorities resisted Magyar invasion & the Hungarian army withdrew.
- G Austrian & Russian armies defeated the Hungarian army.
- G Hungary would have to wait until 1866 for autonomy.



Tsar Nicholas I (r. 1825-1855)



- G He raised an army of 400,000 in response to a request from Franz Joseph.
- 140,000 put down the Hungarian revolt.



Bohemia, 1848

- G Bohemia was split between Pan-Slavs & Pan-Germans.
- G Prague Conference:
 - Developed the idea of Austro-Slavism.
 - A constitution & autonomy within the Habsburg Empire.
- G The Austrian military ultimately attacked Prague, occupied Bohemia & crushed the rebellion.



The Prague Barricades



Revolution in Romania



Italy



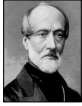
Upheaval in Italy, 1848

- G Italian nationalists and liberals sought to end foreign domination of Italy.
- G Milan, Lombardy & Venetia wanted to expel their Austrian rulers.
- G Bourbon rulers in Kingdom of Two Sicilies.
- G House of Savoy in Sardinia-Piedmont grant liberal constitutions.
 - Sardinia-Piedmont declared war on Austria.
- G Beginning in May, revolutions suppressed.





Italy, 1848



- G Giuseppe Mazzini established a Roman Republic in 1849 protected by Giuseppe Garibaldi.
- G Pope Pius IX forced to flee.
- G Austrian General Radetsky crushed Sardinia-Piedmont.
- G French troops take back the Papal States.
- G Victor Emmanuel II takes the throne in Sardinia-Piedmont.



Reasons for Failure in Italy

- G Rural people did not support the revolutions.
 - Revolutionaries focused mainly on urban middle classes.
- G The revolutionaries were not united.
 - Fear of radicals among moderates led to the collapse of the revolutions.
- G Lack of leadership and administrative experience among the revolutionaries.



The German States



Germania - 1848



Frederick William IV of Prussia (1840-1861)



- G Mad as a hatter!
- G Anti-liberal, but an 'Arthurian' medieval romantic.
 - Agricultural romantic.
- G Relied on **Junker** support.
- G Prussia in the mid-19th:
 - Efficient.
 - Good economy.
 - Strong military.

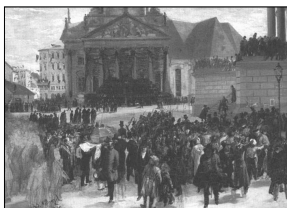


The Germans Follow the French

- G After the February French revolutions, there were many riots in minor German states.
- G Austria and Prussia expected to intervene to crush these revolts, BUT:
 - Vienna Revolution → led to the fall of Metternich.
 - Berlin riots
 - Prussian army efficiently suppressed the revolutionaries.
 - King Frederick William IV withdraws the troops and hand the Prussia liberals a big victory!
 - Other Princedoms collapse when Prussia's nerve fails.



Funeral for Berlin Freedom Fighters

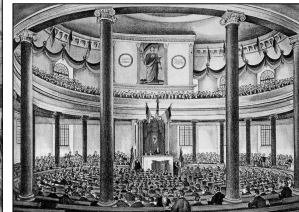


The Frankfurt Assembly

- G German liberals are overjoyed!
- G German National Assembly established in Frankfurt:
 - Universal suffrage.
 - Delegates mostly from the middle class.
 - Debate over the nature of the state → monarchy of Habsburgs or Hohenzollerns?
 - They chose the Austrian Habsburg Archduke John rather than the King of Prussia.
 - He was a well-known liberal sympathizer.
 - But they couldn't guarantee the loyalty of the Prussian Army.

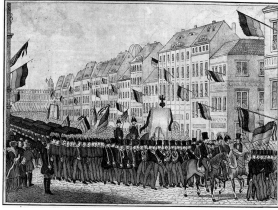


Frankfurt Assembly Meets





A Citizen Militia on Parade in Berlin



The "Three Germanies"



Prussian Resurgence

- G The Prussian army moved to crush the new Polish Grand Duchy.
- G The Prussian parliament disagreed with the Frankfurt Parliament.
- G The Prussian army invaded Schleswig-Holstein (at Frankfurt's request).
 - Horrified international liberal opinion.
 - Britain & Russia threatened war with Prussia.
 - Prussia agreed to its own peace with Denmark.
 - The Prussian army abandoned the Frankfurt government.



Austria & Prussia Reassert Control

- G Austria re-gained control of Vienna.
- G Frederick William deposed the Berlin parliament.
- G The Frankfurt Assembly offered the emperorship to Frederick William.
 - He declined.
 - Radicals took to the barricades again.
 - The Prussian army crushed all resistance.
 - April, 1849 → the Assembly collapsed.



A New German Confederation



- G Frederick William IV of Prussia was still interested in ruling a united Germany.
- G 1850 → the German Confederation was re-established at Olmutz.
- G But, Frederick was forced to accept Austrian leadership of Central Europe.



Liberalism Discredited in Germany

- G Little popular support.
- G The union of liberals and democrats didn't last.
- G Rule of force was the only winner!
- G There was a massive exodus of liberal intelligentsia.
 - Militarism, hierarchy, and statism were triumphant!
 - Capitalists followed suit.



1848: Outside the Continent



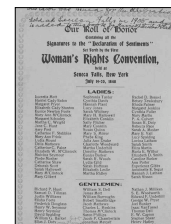
Chartist Meeting, 1848



- G The Movement reached its height with the Kennington Common demonstration on April 10, 1848.
- G This could have been the prelude to revolution in Britain, but the meeting was peaceful.
- G The Chartist leaders did not follow up on the meeting, and the movement died.



Seneca Falls Convention, NY





THE AFTERMATH



Democrats Swept Out of Europe



The Communist Manifesto



Karl Marx



Friedrich Engels



Why did the 1848 Revolutions Fail?

- G They failed to attract popular support from the working classes.
- G The middle classes led these revolutions, but as they turned radical, the middle class held back.
- G Nationalism divided more than united.
- G Where revolutions were successful, the Old Guard was left in place and they turned against the revolutionaries.
- G Some gains lasted [abolition of serfdom, etc.]
- G BUT, in the long term, most liberal gains would be solidified by the end of the 19th:
 - The unification of Germany and Italy.
 - The collapse of the Hapsburg Empire at the end of World War I.



The Bottom Line

- G It looked like the Conservative forces had triumphed.
- G BUT...
 - Things had changed forever.
 - Economic/social problems continued to be constant challenges to the ruling order.
 - Conservatives would have to make concessions in order to stay in power.
 - Many of the limited Liberal achievements remained permanent.